

The Weather:

Hope this Southern climate suits the Yanks . . .

THE DIXIE

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE DIXIE (31ST) DIVISION

"IT SHALL BE DONE"

Dixiedoodle Says:
Anyway, we aren't in the Navy . . .

VOLUME 1

CAMP BLANDING, FLORIDA, Friday, April 4, 1941

Number 13

Daytona Beach Plans Splendid Week-End Area

Colonel McNeese Reports On Entertainment Facilities For Soldiers At Beach Resort

On a recent tour of Daytona Beach, for the purpose of inspection of leisure time facilities for soldiers, of Camp Blanding, Colonel O. W. McNeese, Public Relations Officer reports everything there is very favorable, in fact, that it is already set up as a "finished week-end leave area."

Located on City Island are buildings of the Chamber of Commerce. One of these, the Casino, is a spacious recreation center itself and affords facilities for soldier's to rest, stationery and tables for writing letters. Small dances and social get-togethers may be held here also, with ladies of local organizations acting as hostess, no charges to be made. On the Beach side are two large social centers, Beach Rest and Peabody Club, also equipped for games, lounging and letter writing. Enlisted men are encouraged to meet their families here. On the beach also is a bandshell large enough to seat several thousand people, for beach attractions. Band concerts are held here on Saturday nights. The Pier Casino, formerly owned privately, is being taken over by the city and will be used for large controlled dances for soldiers, supervised by the various women's clubs of the city. The Y. W. C. A., is equipped to take care of women connected with military personnel and will be open at all times. Mothers, wives and sweethearts are invited to make their headquarters there. A list of housing establishments will be furnished soon where men can spend the night for fifty cents each. A space sufficient to park a convoy of a whole regiment is behind the ball park and may be used for this.

124 Collectors Shell Blanding

No fast action fellow is Private Tom Spurway, Jr., 22, Miami, Fla. National Guardsman mobilized with B company, 124th Infantry. At least, that is the impression gained when he tells you his hobby is collecting snails. At home he has about 1,000 sets of four snails per set, or about 4,000 of the shelled creatures in all. That's setting some pace. Spurway says snail collecting is very slow in this part of Florida.

There is another shell collector in company B, Private first Class Bill G. Newbold, 20, also a Miami man, only he collects firearm shells. He has a collection of about 400 varieties, shapes, and sizes, ranging from .22's on up.

Powder Burning Soldiers



Men of the 167th and 124th Infantry fill the firing line of the 30 calibre range at Blanding as they seek to learn the proper use of the new M-1 rifle. All last week the Regiments of the Division filled the small arms range (said to be the largest in the world; four miles long) as they practiced with live ammunition. All precautions were taken to insure safety, no man was allowed to leave the firing line until his rifle was examined for extra shells.

—Staff Photo.

Veteran Sergeant Makes High Score

In the 116th Field Artillery only the commanding officer, Colonel Homer W. Hesterly, has more years of service in the regiment behind him than Staff Sergeant Herbert S. Nicholas of Battery C. Sgt. Nicholas, of Tampa, is 33, married and has a daughter. He began his 20 years of service in the 116th when he was only a 14-year-old youngster in junior high school, and is now in charge of care and maintenance of the Battery's motor equipment. The best mechanic in the regiment, he was, until induction last November, an auto mechanic and painter. He made the highest score, 98, in the Division motor sergeants' school.

Sgt. Nicholas has seen active service for his battery has often been called upon to maintain peace during many fiery Tampa elections, and to prevent jail deliveries. He was among the volunteers of the company serving flood and disaster duty in the 1926 Miami hurricane and flood.

114 Boxers Ready

Boxers of the 114th Field Artillery rounded off an intensive training program for regimental and divisional honors with exhibition matches Saturday night in the regimental arena, the last before official bouts begin on April 4th.

Refereeing the matches were Lt. James H. Melton, regimental athletic officer, and Pvt. E. C. Jenkins, of Battery F, formerly a member of Southwestern Louisiana Institute's championship team. Two draws and two decisions were called.

116 Reg. Surgeon Has Distinguished Guest

John Wallace, of St. Petersburg, Florida, brother of Vice-President Henry Wallace, was the guest Saturday of Major N. W. Gable, 116th F. A. regimental surgeon. Mr. Wallace, a World War artilleryman, was shown over the camp by his friend, Major Cable, who is also from St. Petersburg.

Hands Held High In Army Ranks

This family really has a hand in the operations of the Army—in fact, five Hands. Imagine that . . . five Hands! But true enough. Three boys and two girls they are. First Sergeant A. E. Hand, Sgt. S. M. and Corporal C. P., all brothers, from Tampa, Fla., and with the 116th Field Artillery, Battery C. The Hand boys are not at all small fry. The biggest one weighs 250 pounds and the smallest one 200. They were inducted with this unit last November in Tampa.

Where the other two Hands come in is in a different department but still in the Army. They are two second lieutenants, nurses stationed at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. They are Hazel and Margaret, inducted on the same day as their brothers. These five soldiers also have another brother older than they who was formerly in the Army.

Kitchen Display

The kitchen and messhall of Co. B, 106th Medical regiment, will be put on display Monday, April 7, between 2 and 4 p. m. All interested in viewing a spotless unit are invited to attend.

DIXIE DIVISION ENTERS COMBINED TRAINING PLANS

EDITOR LEAVES DIXIE

Members of the Dixie staff mope about the office, the hushed air of a funeral home hangs in the atmosphere and saddened soldiers troop silently through the spacious halls wherein once a cheerful spirit ran rampant. For Lt. William Hodding Carter is leaving the paper; going to Washington to carry out an important job, leaving his cohorts to writhe in their own misery.

This brilliant, witty master of the poisoned pen has departed these premises to join the other great men in that sanctuary of our government archives.

Picked from the Division as a man of great capabilities, Lt. Carter carries years (yea, too many years) of experience in his chosen field, and with the expanding of the War Department Public Relations Bureau, the long arm of Headquarters officialdom reached forth, plucking this learned plum from the limb of the Dixie Division Press Section.

We mourn his leaving, but give the father of the Dixie a hearty slap on the back and best wishes in his new job.

Vaudeville Stars Give Sunday Show

An overflow crowd of more than 1500 Dixie soldiers jam-packed the Division Theatre last Sunday afternoon to hear Isham Jones and Gene Austin present a program of combined sweet and swing music for the amusement of the men of the Division.

Opened with a swing version of the "Prisoner's Song," made famous by Jones's band, the program included tumbling, banjo music, a dog act, imitations, and songs and dance music.

High spots of the program, as shown by applause, were Linda Gray's rendition of "Yes, My Darling Daughter" and Gene Austin's versions of "My Blue Heaven" and "Melancholy Baby."

The troupe is currently appearing at the Patio Grille in Jacksonville's Roosevelt Hotel and appeared at Camp Blanding through the courtesy of the Hotel management.

New Name For New Dixie Men

Add nicknames for the selectees; "bugaloos," used by the 31st Div. Ordnance Co. The term is used by the Navy to refer to new seamen. How the name originated or how it came into use in the Ordnance outfit no one knows.

Motor Maneuver and Bivouac To Sanford Well Executed

The Dixie Division entered the first phase of a new three-month combined training program Monday with a motor maneuver and overnight bivouac to Sanford, Florida. The field exercise was performed with 200 motor vehicles by the 1,500 National Guardsmen of the 124th (Florida) Infantry combat team, supported by a battalion of the 117th Field Artillery, a company of the 106th Medical regiment, and a company of the 106th Engineers, numbering 500 more, all under command of Colonel Fred A. Safay, regimental commander of the 124th. The movement was inspected by Major-General John C. Persons, divisional commander.

In the new combined training tactics, the regiments of the division work together just as would be necessary in actual combat, although individual regimental training will continue as aggressively as in the past. This morning the combat team of the 167th Infantry also began a two-day motor problem to Sanford, where an overnight bivouac will be made. The trip to Sanford will be made over the route followed by the 124th Monday, going through Keystone Heights, Palatka, Crescent City, DeLand and in to Sanford.

The maneuvers stressed details and mechanics of smooth, rapid movement, and features intracolumn communication by radio. The 124th team was moved to Sanford in serials by the shuttle method of troop transportation. The Infantry is not yet completely motorized and the shuttle system is an arrangement where—

(Continued on page three)

Marineland Gives Price Reduction

Men in uniform will be admitted to view the wonders of the famed Marineland Studios located near St. Augustine for half price, 50 cents, R. J. Eastman, assistant director of press and public relations at Marineland, said this week. This price is a special one to service men only and is "just to help the cause along," Mr. Eastman stated.

Shuttle March For 155th Inf. Last Monday

Foot soldiers of the 155th Infantry removed G-1 shoes for seven-league boots, figuratively speaking, Monday, as under the command of Colonel George R. Hogaboom they moved out for their first motor exercise, a shuttle movement, and Thursday made a much longer march.

THE DIXIE

Official Newspaper of the
Dixie (31st) Division
Camp Blanding, Florida

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The Dixie is published Friday of each week in the interest of the officers and men of the 31st Division with publication offices at Press Section, Division Headquarters.—Phone 240.

COLONEL ROBERT C. DAVIS

The death on April 1 of Lieutenant Colonel Robert C. Davis, Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, 124th Infantry, has saddened not only the officers and men of his regiment, but also his fellow officers of the Dixie Division who have recognized him personally as the finest example of the American citizen-soldier.

In tribute to his memory, The Dixie publishes this memorial, written by Lieutenant Frank Crowe of his regiment:

"He was a man who served his state in many capacities. He was a brilliant advocate, eloquent in defense and attack; a public spirited citizen, clear minded and unselfish; an officer, active in military affairs above and beyond the call of duty.

"Passing steadily and quickly from one post to another in military, civil and social usefulness, Colonel Davis was energetic in service, constant in labor, guided always by a deep insight into human nature, with a keen sympathy for the inspiration and activities of youth. He was a man under whose leadership the privilege of learning was extended to all. His life in its entirety served as an example of sincere and unswerving integrity.

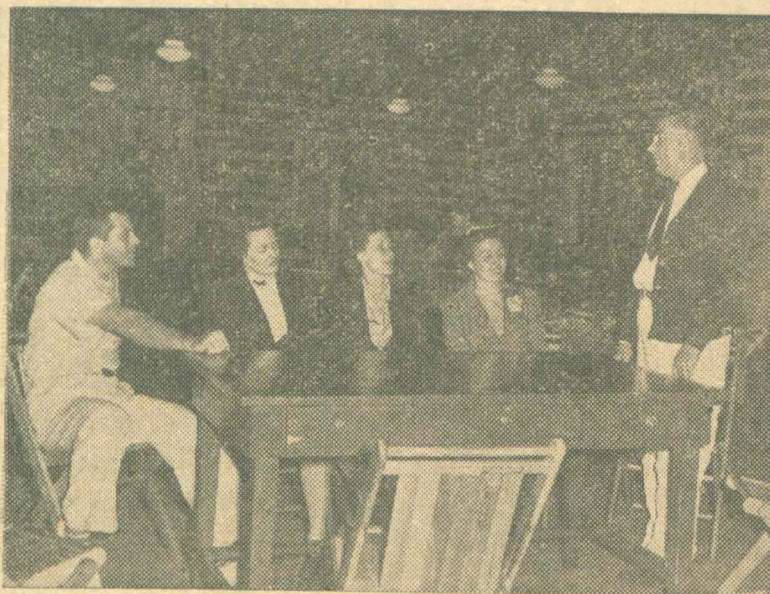
"In every honored station which the Colonel occupied he exemplified the finer qualities of mind and heart which one most admires in man. His resourcefulness, his courage, his intellectual power, the nobility of his vision, the determination and enthusiasm of his many pursuits called for the commendation of all who knew him.

"To his sorrowing friends and comrades there is the consolation that his regiment is nearer to perfection because of his labors, and his country is richer by his life.

"It is the sincere conviction of those that knew Colonel Davis that had the choice of fate been granted to him, he would have chosen to depart this life in the manner which has come to pass, for his death marks him with the everlasting glory of an American who died in the service of his country."

With this issue the editor of the Dixie takes leave of Camp Blanding, his editorial duties, and the intricacies of the Field Artillery. From now until the problematical end of his period of service he will be in Washington. If he can be of any service to the Dixie Division or to any member thereof, in his new capacity, please address him, c/o Public Relations Bureau, War Department, Washington, D. C.

They Plan Fun For Soldiers



Pictured here, discussing interesting programs now being carried out at the American Legion Recreation Center on W. Call St., are five members of the W. P. A.-provided staff. Left to right: Lawrence W. Morel, Miss Nellie Hart, Miss Bonnie Parrish, Miss Helen McGrath, and Jack Nuttall, director.

—Staff Photo.

Civilians Cheer General Persons And 31st Troops

Encouraging displays of patriotism were witnessed by the 124th troops in towns along the route to Sanford Monday and Tuesday. Schools were dismissed and cheering, waving children and citizens lined both sides of the streets, while flags were out and many persons were waving small flags in their hands.

The scenes were inspiring. Seeing people waving flags and cheering the Army because they wanted to, NOT because they were afraid NOT to, gave clearer impact to our principles of democracy and freedom.

One amusing incident occurred as General Persons was passing through Crescent City early Monday afternoon. School children were banded three and four deep on each curb. As the General's automobile approached one little fellow on the end shouted out "There's the General!" Cheers and waves went up and the enthusiasm apparently communicated itself to a small dog, for he ran into the street, perhaps to get a better look at the General. The chauffeur stopped the car to avoid hitting the animal, and a ripple of amusement arose. The dog wouldn't move and there they were, "a dollar waiting on a dime," as the old saying goes. Finally, after nearly a minute, a lad detached himself from the crowd, took the dog up in his arms, and carried him back to the sidewalk, so the General could continue. And the General? Oh, he just smiled!

Figures Do Lie Says Supply Sgt.

Private Allan M. Butler of Special troops has been terribly mixed up since he's been in the Army. The other day when he was being issued new shoes, the supply Sgt. inquired what size he wore. He replied "well, sergeant, I don't know exactly. I've got one pair size nine-E and one pair size nine and a half, double-E. I've been wearing both pairs some time and, frankly, I don't know what size it'll take." "Add the two and divide by two and you've got it," said the Sgt. "O. K., gimme nine and a quarter, E and a half" was the answer.

New Band Battle Looms In Dixie

Haul out your trumpets—grab your sax and "clomp" your trombone—yeah, hang onto your shoes, for here comes another history-making battle of the bands, a hot contest of orchestras! Destined to write the entire book of chronology, these brave and ambitious lads of the swing army will march forth on the night of April 8th, to do honor to another great engagement of rollicking rhythm, in the lighter forms of fantasy, the hotter versions of jazz and swingaroo! Said braves are none other than orchestras from the 167th Infantry and the 155th Infantry. On this night they will invade the Division Recreation Center, Service Club, or any other name you know it by, (they're all one and the same place) where the crusade for crowning will take place.

It is understood that there will be eliminations from each such swing meet, and Division winners will be crowned. In the middle of this one, there will be a pause, an intermission at which time acrobatics will be performed by acrobats from each of the contesting regiments; but this will be short (the acrobatics) because—most of the time will go to the rhythm-addicts. So—lovers of swing, step forth on this night, for it promises to be memorable, and in no small fashion.

M. P.'s On Hike

Thirty-First Division "flatfeet" pounded the pavement last week but in a different way as the Dixie's M. P. company made its first hike of the training period. Marching to Gate D, the policemen broke column, pitched pup tents and "bunked down" for a short period.

The purpose of the march was to see how fast the M. P. Co., could move out of a given area into another.

High Scoring Sgt.

An exceptional score for machine gun firing was made on the range last week by Sgt. H. Galpin, Co. D, 156th Inf. Firing a heavy calibre weapon, Sgt. Galpin tallied 189 out of a possible 200. Altogether, he fired 250 shots at the target.



Ho-Hum— Spring is here, and with it the men in this camp can relax into that lethargy which such a season always brings. This writer is going to fall into the mood, and will cease to try to entertain. No gossip will rear its ugly head, no quips will mar the serenity of these lines and all will be peace with Alsop.

This is a gentle way of informing the readers that all is not too energetic with this columnist. We are in a wonderful place here, beautiful sand all about, a swell lake to call our own and only a few sergeants to spoil our days with their intense interest in work.

One of the things of interest to me is the fact that our distinguished Editor, Lt. Hodding Carter, is departing for a swivel chair. Washington has called, and like the cherry blossoms and the tourists, he will pounce upon that innocent city. But seriously, this is a perfect example of the fact that the army is seeking men of ability. He began as a second Lt. in a line Regiment, yet he went first to Division Staff, and when a new department was formed, his services were called for an important job.

And he deserves it. His reputation alone is worthy of consideration, but more than that, ability is the paramount thing. And every soldier has such a chance. He may apply his knowledge along his chosen line, and can be sure that good work will be recognized.

But away from such mercenary things—we can't brood because other people have all the luck. As mentioned before, this week's writing was not intended to delve into the morbid. The light fantastic is the keynote.

All of this reminds us—in a rather far fetched way—of the lassitude which has fallen upon some men we know. A Sgt. in Hq. Co. Special Troops had to go home on an urgent leave. He left a note for his roommate to send his laundry out. Upon returning to camp, he found his clean things waiting. The bill was exactly one cent. His buddy had sent one towel to be cleaned.

Ahah— consider the pitiful case of Top Sgt. Charles Vieullemot, Co. G, 156th Inf. One sun drenched day, the good company boss lay relaxing in his tent. A blatant horn blasted the quiet air. He dashed to the road, finding a lovely young miss sitting quietly in a car. She beckoned—he went. With a coy smile, she handed him a bouquet of roses, tore the gears into place, and dashed madly down the road. All that is left to the Sgt. are a few faded roses, a vacant place in his heart, a little gravel still in his face and an overwhelming desire to know what it was all about.

And Sgt. David Cleary, Co. B, 167th Inf., has probably the most unique prize to be found in the Division. For a long time he has recounted his exploits on the range. Finally he was handed a rifle and the terse explanation was given: "Show us." And show them he did. He shot a blazing 17 out of a possible 80. At a touching little ceremony in the messhall, the eagle-eyed sharpshooter was presented a beautiful pair of "Mag-gies."

And just to add a finishing touch—Sgt. L. D. Bernard, Co. G, 156th Inf., decided to go to a show. He didn't know what was playing so he asked a chum. Of Sgt. W. O. Gammil, he asked: "What's playing tonight at the theatre?"

"You'll Find Out."

"Yeah, but what's playing?"

"You'll Find Out."

Sgt. Bernard took one more look at his friend, looked at the clouds and said: "What's on at the show?"

"You'll Find Out."

They finally separated them.

Sgt. H. E. Buckley of Hq. Co., 155th Inf., deserves the gold plated medal for the most eerie (and we do mean airy) statement of the week. Learning his grade on a recent code aptitude test, the good man dashed to his Lt., Donald W. Price, screaming: "Lt., I made 56 on my altitude test."

Well—the spring is still in the air. Alsop has scrambled through another column, and the 31st Division is still at Camp Blanding. We can look forward to every Wednesday evening as a day to relax. And isn't it wonderful; a whole column without a bit of gossip.

Lt. Col. R. C. Davis Mourned By Men Of 124th Infantry

Lt.-Col. Robert C. Davis, 43, of Orlando, commanding officer of first battalion, 124th Infantry, died Tuesday morning at 12:40 o'clock in the Station Hospital. Death resulted from a heart attack. Col. Davis was the first officer to die from natural causes at Camp Blanding.

Beginning his military career before the U. S. entered the World War, he completed his service on April 26, 1919 holding the grade of sergeant. In June, 1933, he was made a second lieutenant, assigned to K company, 124th, made first lieutenant in 1934 and promoted to captain the same year. He was commissioned major in August, Nov. 25, 1940.

Funeral services and interment were in Orlando yesterday at 3:30 o'clock P. M., Major Chaplain John Jenner (124th) officiating. An honor guard of 30 enlisted men and two officers from K company, Col. Fred A. Safay, the regimental commander, and other officers were in attendance.

Col. Davis was born in Ocala May 15, 1889, but for many years lived in Orlando and was junior partner in the Davis, Davis and Davis law firm there. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Doris Tilden Davis; by two daughters, and by his father, E. W. Davis, Misses Betty and Jean Davis; all of Orlando.

Press Section Needs Lost and Found Dept.

The telephone in the Dixie office rang. Answered, a silky-voiced female operator beckoned the other end to go ahead.

A silence, a deep breath, then a voice in an unmistakable dialect:

"Boss, ah'm lookin' fo' Geraldine . . . Am she workin' dere? . . . Dey told me she is."

This end knew of no staff member named Geraldine. In fact had no acquaintance. A definite answer was given: "No, this is 2-4-0, the Press Section. You have the wrong number."

But dissatisfied mumblings from the paying end. And he began once more:

"Nossuh, boss, dat's de numbah alright . . . 2-4-0, de pressin' club . . . Am GERALD—"

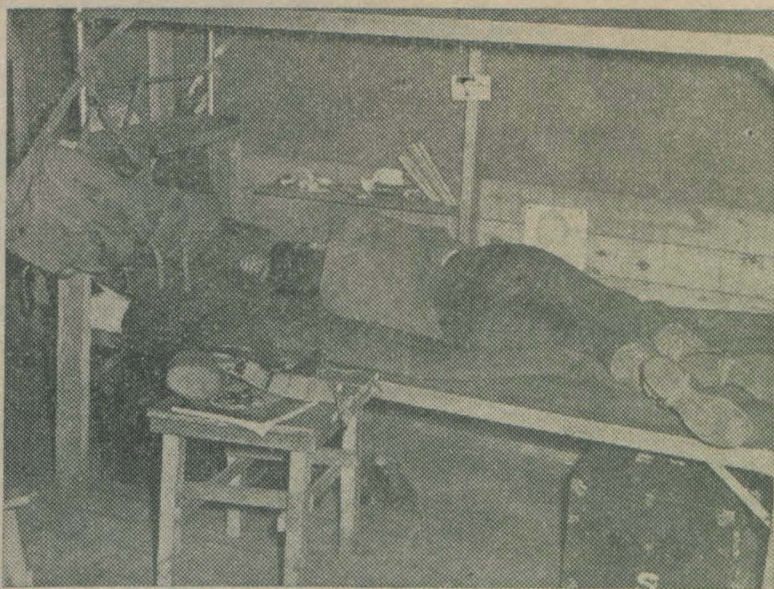
Practice Makes Perfect

If you see large groups of soldiers playing softball in a black goggled, headgear with a beer can looking affair for a snout they aren't the Masked Marvels; nor are they using the latest Spaulding equipment. It's simply a means of acclimating the men to the gas mask while exercising, explained Lt. Joseph C. Wink, Battery D, 114th F. A.

Going Too Far

The order providing that Selectees should be quarantined for two weeks after arrival, that is segregated as much as possible from the other soldiers by using separate mess tables, tents, wash-basins, etc., was a good idea but no need to take the thing too far. A plank on the walk-way running by Company M, 155th Infantry, is marked, "For Trainees Only."

After Inspection



Sgt. Tommy Norman, Hq. Co., Special Troops, tosses his pack aside at the end of Division Inspection, and falls into bed. This is a familiar scene in the line companies, where a twelve hour day is nothing to wonder about. The sleeping beauty, Sgt. Norman, is chief of the observer section, G-2, which in ordinary language means the intelligence section, had to travel full pack in order to demonstrate the efficiency of his job. The pack is said to weigh at least twice as much at the end of the day as at the beginning.

—Staff Photo.

Dixie Enters

(Continued from page one)
by a fleet of trucks may transport a body of men outnumbering its capacity, which was approximately 50 percent in this movement. The trucks Monday and Tuesday divided into two groups, the foot troops into three units. One unit of foot soldiers walked toward the objective, while two units rode. At predetermined points a riding unit was detrucked to take its turn walking while the vehicles turned back to transport the first walking unit. This procedure was repeated until all men arrived. The convoy made the 125 mile trip to Sanford in only nine hours, 25 minutes, and under the old marching system the trip would consume six days!

The 124th staged a parade through Sanford's business district late Monday afternoon through cheering crowds and flying flags. Among the dignitaries in the reviewing stand were General Persons, Brigadier-General Joseph C. Hutchinson, and the mayor of Sanford. General Hutchinson, commander of the 62nd Brigade which includes the 124th, and his staff were present during the trip as supervisors and umpires.

On the return trip Tuesday the team traveled via Orlando, A-popka, Ocala, Waldo, and Starke. A parade was held in Orlando. The 167th team will return tomorrow by way of Daytona and St. Augustine.

Advance preparations are made for the trips, Military Police and guides being stationed at all road intersections and rail crossings. The Florida Highway Patrol is cooperating with the Army and all maneuvers are made without confusion and without interruption of civilian traffic.

The 124th team enjoyed the hospitality of Sanford and was bivouaced in a large clear space at one end of the Fort Mellon Park, only three blocks from the business district on the banks of the St. Johns river. A rainy night and a few leaking pup tents placed a damper on some spirits.

Anti-Tank Boxers Show Strong Squad

Anti-Tank Company, 124th Infantry, last Friday night chalked up two wins, three draws, and only one loss in six bouts with other 124th men held in the regimental area. Roland T. Ely defeated Clinton Reynolds of I company by a technical knockout, Rufus Crumbly also scored a T. K. O. over Eisenberg Winfield of A company, Harrell Leninger drew with William Eilertsen of M company, Johnny Douglas tied Tommy Harris of F company, Wayman Vallia finished "even stephen" with Mark Lavelle of F company, while Greenwood Gay lost for Anti-Tank to Henry Sheffield of I company.

Sgt. Art Riley of Hq. Co., refereed the bouts, which were under supervision of Lieutenants James Dowling and Frank H. Crowe. The latter is recreation officer of the 124th, the former from Anti-Tank company.

New System For Selectee Training

Selectees of the 155th Infantry, now in their fourth week of training, received a welcome respite from "just drilling" this week as instruction in first-aid, following lectures last week, became a part of the training program. Work was concentrated on bandaging and splinting.

Private Private

Pity poor Pvt. Larry Robichaux, Co. C, 156th Inf. Why? Well, just take a look at the front of the tent, where the names of the occupants appear on signs. Here are the names that are listed: Sgt. A. Blanchard, Sgt. A. Daudet, Corp. J. Canzno, Corp. D. Field, Corp. D. LaBruyere. Yes, that's right. Pvt. Robichaux is the only private in a tent with five non-coms. Incidentally, wonder who does the chores.

LOST—A cigarette lighter in the 31st Division theatre. Initials in black on front. Has sentimental value. —Private James T. Boone.

"Orders Is Orders" Captain Tells Sgts.

The trio of high ranking non-coms were all decked out in fancy pants when they approached their officer. A week-end highly promising loomed before their optimistic vision and they were very happy—which was as it should be. Expecting everything to ride smoothly, they said: "We'd like to sign out for the week end sir." Said the Captain: "Know your general orders?" "Er . . . uh—yes-s-s . . . that is—well I believe you've got us Captain" (very lightly). "Yes," said the officer, "I think I have." Very surprised and taken aback the three Sgts. inquired further, but it was hopeless because the Capt. wasn't even paying any attention to them . . . he was busy fishing out some general order forms for them. They were permitted to leave when they had recited the orders (which was three hours later). They were Sgts. Howell, Franklin (who didn't have any trouble with his general orders but had to wait on the others) and Sgt. Stewart, all of the 167th Regimental Headquarters.

Dreaming Out Loud

"Why Do I Dream Those Dreams" might well be the theme song of Pfc. Kenneth Becks, Co. D, 156th Inf.

Pvt. Becks was lying asleep one night in one of the top bunks of his tent, dreaming that he was sleeping on the lower deck. Suddenly something startled him into wakefulness. With the dream still hazy in his mind, he rose to his feet on the bed, stepped over the end . . . and fell to the floor four feet below.

No injuries were reported, however.

Cosmopolitan Tent In Co. B, 156th Inf.

What'd you like to talk about . . . flowers, building bridges, culinary art in foreign countries, hoboing for a living, taxi-cab driving in a big city, or the pros and cons of life in school? If it's any of the above you're interested in, you'll probably be able to find an authority on it in Tent 23, Co. B, 156th Inf.

In the tent, made up of Selectees, are a former florist, construction engineer, cook on a tramp steamer, professional hobo, taxi-cab driver and schoolboy.

Members of the company report some swell bull-sessions at night in Tent 23.

You Can Quit If You Join Again

It is now possible for enlisted men to resign from the Army . . . which might be interesting to some of you fellows. But, wait a minute, here's a clause we want to add before any of you resign: you have to join the regulars for a period of three years to do this. Yes, it's being done these days.

Impasse

Men of Co. C, 156th Inf., don't know whether they ought to tear out the entire floor of their tents or just saw out a few boards. They've been ordered by Col. James Kuttner, commanding officer of the 156th, to remove the oil spots on the floors, caused by cleaning rifles.

Cheap Improvement Co. C, Motto

If you want to make your company area livable and noticeable and don't have any money with which to do it just ask Top Sergeant William J. Gaines, Co. C, 106th QM, to help you. He heads a company that's replete with ideas about making the company street stand out. Here are a few they are using.

Each tent has a tin garbage can, made from used carbide containers painted silver, and a cement fire-box, made from mashed limestone and sand mixed with water. The company street is covered with sawdust instead of the conventional sand. The sawdust was obtained for the asking at the Camp sawmill. In front of each tent is a front porch made of scrap lumber. There is a rustic wooden entrance bridge built of pine limbs.

About the only thing that costs the company anything, Sgt. Gaines says, is the outdoor ice-water fountain . . . and the only money spent on it is for ice. It too was made from scraps that men of the company picked up.

No Favoritism For This Soldier

You can't satisfy everybody at once, Pvt. Jack Piper, recruit in Co. A, 156th Inf., testifies.

Pvt. Piper was walking down the company street one day last week, thinking about nothing in particular. Suddenly he saw two lieutenants coming toward him.

What to do? If he saluted one and failed to salute the other, the first would probably be pleased but the other wouldn't like it. And if he saluted the second and not the first, vice versa.

Pvt. Piper solved the problem. With military smartness, he snapped to a salute . . . with both hands!

Odd Numbered Tents For Odd Soldiers

Members of Co. C, 106th QM regiment, think they have three of the smallest tents in the 31st Division. They're only about two feet high, and fifteen inches square. No, the boys don't bunk in them. They're for the company's mascots . . . namely Scram, Rookie, and Laddie, three stray pooches that men of the company have picked up.

The tents are placed in a line with the others on the company street and resemble them in every way but one; where the regular tents are numbered with whole numbers, those of the dogs have fractions. Scram's is A-3 1-2; Laddie's, B-6 1-2; and Rookie's is C-1 1-2.

117th Starts Move To Decorate Area

The battery areas of the 117th Field Artillery will not be ordinary sand stretches in the burning sun this spring, but will be beautifully landscaped and will have shrubbed "lawns," because right now each battery is working on that very thing. Spreading sawdust on the battery streets, setting out shrubbery and planting lawn grasses. It seems that they brought along a little of that yen for scenery from Alabama and are "prettifying up" for the springtime. And they are fixing up their beach on Kingsley Lake too—spreading beach sand and planting palm trees.

No Frank Buck Driver Tells Sgt.

Pvt. Wallace West, Co. D, 156th Inf. can go the truckdriver of the 155th Infantry who lost his truck for an hour on the recent Division inspection one better. When he lost a truck, it stayed lost for a whole night . . . and nothing could make Pvt. West go back to look for it.

The time is one night last week; the place, one of the fields near the Rifle Range. Pvt. West had been on a night maneuver in his truck and was just returning to camp. Suddenly one of the front wheels bogged down.

Pvt. West sat in his truck a few seconds, then got out to examine the wheel. All at once, in the distance a low moan rose and fell. Pvt. West's hair kept time with the moan. Pvt. West vacated the area in a hurry.

Hours later, back on the company street, the private was trying to explain the lost truck to his non-com . . . "It sounded like a panther, Sergeant, so I didn't worry about the truck. Besides, panthers don't eat trucks."

After they found the truck the following morning, Pvt. West was sentenced to four days as K. P.

Ingenious K. P.'s Ease Own Work

No one ever said that the job of K. P. isn't hard but the men of Co. M, 156th Inf., admit that they're having an easier time of it than they did a few weeks ago. The reason? Well, they've built a serving table that lightens their load considerably.

The table is built on rollers and is complete with two trays, each large enough to hold all the drinking mugs of the company.

114th Field Artillery Receives High Rating

The 114th Field Artillery, commanded by Colonel A. G. Paxton, received a superior rating following the recent Division inspection of March 20 and 21st. Inspected by Lt. Col. Patrick E. Shea, Brigade Headquarters, and officers of the 117th Field Artillery, both officers and men of the Mississippi unit were commended in letters from Major General John C. Persons, Division Commander, and Brigadier General Sumter L. Lowry, Jr., Brigade Commander.

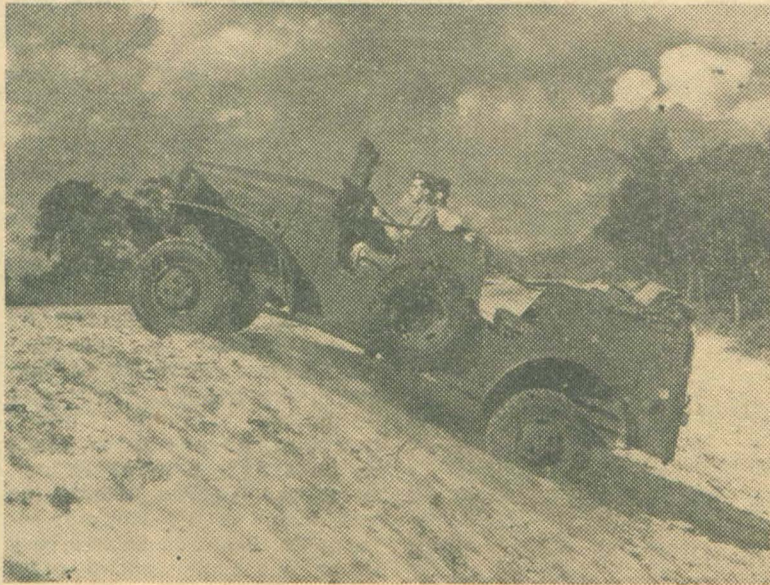
Sergeants Hooks Self

There is an old saying about "hook line and sinker," also one about "catching it in the neck." But it remained for a Dixie Division man to bring the two quotations together and make them apply to a single person. Sgt. Harold Robertson, Co. F, 167th Infantry, decided to take a fling at the fishing in Kingsley. All equipment in order, he prepared to cast for a 'big 'un.' With a swift flick of the wrist, the rod shot back; whipped forward—and the hook hung in something on the first try. It was buried in the Sergeant's neck.

New Commander For 2 Bn., 124th Inf.

Captain Harold C. Washburn, of Sanford, temporarily assumed command of the 124th Infantry's first battalion Tuesday following the death of Lt.-Col. Robert C. Davis.

They Aren't Overrated



The driver of this "jeep" demonstrates that the new addition to Uncle Sam's mobile forces will do just about anything. Taking the reconnaissance car up a thirty degree slope of soft sand proves that nothing short of an immovable object will stop these powerful little cars. And this wasn't just a posed shot; the top was gained after four wheel drive was used.

—Staff Photo.

Chang Steals Show As Kipling Burns

"You're a better soldier than I, Sergeant Chang," soldiers of Company B, 155th Infantry are without question saying of their mascot, Sergeant Chang. For at the 155th's big parade Sunday it was Chang, Chang, Chang, not Colonels, Majors, Captains—Chang. Resplendent in his blue jacket with stripes, Chang strutted before the regiment; then came an enemy, another dog; the few remaining eyes (not focused on Chang) turned dogwardly; the enemy disposed of, or indisposed with, Chang strutted even more proudly. On! On! On!

The Figures Don't Cover Full Question

Private Donald Hayden is assistant to regimental sergeant-major Cyrus Barter in the 116th Field Artillery. Private Hayden has just completed a gigantic mathematical computation and assures us that if one man had all the rations issued to the 116th during one month it would take that man just 85 years, nine months, and 24 days to eat everything at the rate of three meals per day. Now if Private Hayden will figure out a way to live that long, we'll print that, too.

Officers To Tent In 167th Movement

The 2nd battalion of the 117th Field Artillery will support the combat team of 167th Infantry today and tomorrow in the problem to Sanford, and Orlando, Fla. They left Camp this morning and will return Saturday afternoon. 100 vehicles are being used in this movement. All officers, it is reported, below the rank of Major will sleep in pup-tents on the problem.

Save Letter Writing

Soldiers, when you've finished with your copy of the Dixie, don't throw it away. Send it home to the folks. They like to read it and see what you're doing. We believe it makes them feel better, too, so how 'bout giving it a try? Just drop it in your next letter to mother and dad.

Private Uses Belt Gets It In The Neck

Fast thinking and a Spartan endurance saved Private Robert B. Fountain, Battery F, 114th Field Artillery, from confinement to quarters and not getting to see his girl. Excited by her presence within a 40 mile radius the private forgot to put on his tie before going on a field trip. Truck comrades pointed this out and suggested that he would be seen, confined to quarters, and the girl would be disappointed. The rugged but resourceful private removed his belt, looped the heavy canvass under his collar and for two and one half hours wore it that way. He saw his girl, but his neck was raw.

Dixie Men Leave To Join Regular Army

Corp. Donlyn D. Webber and Private First Class Felix L. Sharp, both from Tampa, and both from Medical Detachment, 116th Field Artillery, were discharged Monday to reenlist in the regular army Finance Department. Both former clerks, they are qualified for their new jobs, although reenlistment had to be in the rank of privates. Webber before induction last November was a beautician in a Tampa beauty salon, while Sharpe has a pilot's license and specializes in aerial photography.

Sgt. Goes Modern

Possibly the Division's only air conditioned tent is that of Supply Sgt. C. E. Kennedy, 31st Div. M. P. Co. Upon removing his stove, Sgt. Kennedy also removed the tin protector from the top of the tent and placed an electric fan near the opening.

He doesn't say what he'll do when it rains, however.

Getting A Fit Gives Sgt. Fit

Supply Corp. Max Hamlin, Hq. Det. 2nd Bat., 156th Inf., is having trouble fitting Selectees J. C. Myers, who has been assigned to his unit. Meyers is 6 feet 5 1-2 inches tall and wears size 13 1-2 shoes.

167 Band Master Is Inventor Too

Walloping the drum and wallowing it right is a matter of simplicity with the 167th Infantry band bass drummer. He is, of course, the man who determines the cadence of the march. And, with this band, there's no guess-work about setting the cadence, the drummer uses the invention of the band's warrant officer, Mr. Carey F. Elton. The device, invented in 1932, is attached to the drum and by its indication, the drummer can tell just when to smack the drum every time, thereby setting the cadence at 120 paces per minute, or whatever count is desired.

And this is not the only "gadget" this warrant officer has invented. He also has to his credit a True Scale Music "Streboscope" which insures perfect tunefulness of an instrument. Using these two gadgets, the warrant officer says about all else necessary to a band is the procurement of good musicians and instruments . . . and let things take their natural courses. Another hint he added was that someone invent something to let the soldier's right foot know what the left one's doing in the matter of coming down to earth at the proper time.

Catholic Group Distributes Gifts

More than 500 prayer books and medals have been issued to Catholic soldiers of the 156th Inf. regiment by the Holy Name Society of the unit, Chaplain William Keown announced last week.

Books and medals are issued only to members of the Society, which was organized last month. Leading in membership, according to Chaplain Keown, is Co. A, with Companies H and G running close.

New Courts Built For QM. Net Games

Loking ahead to the summer months are members of Co. A, 106th QM regiment. Men of the company are building what'll probably be the 31st Division's best badminton and tennis court. They've laid a base of limestone rock and as soon as the base settles plan to cover with potter's clay. When finished the court will be brick-hard, smooth as glass and ready for the roughest net games.

New Type Walk For Quartermasters

Something new in the way of duckwalks is being built this week by Co. E, 106th QM. Men of the company, deciding that anybody could build a conventional walk of discarded planks, went into the woods, cut a number of the company, deciding that working on walks that will put to shame many of the best Boy Scout efforts towards rusticity.

Clean Slate For Co. A, 156th Inf.

The basketball team of Co. A, 156th Inf., took its thirteenth winning game without a loss from Service Co., 156th Inf., 28-21, last Friday night at the Starke National Guard Armory. High scorer of the game, with 10 points to his credit, was Pfc. Pete Romano.

AND BLACK AND BLUE IF THEY EVER FIGHT

When asked by Supply Sgt. H. A. Baden why he had changed from red ink to blue on the supply ledger after he was married two weeks ago, Pfc. Martin Dryden, Co. A, 156th Inf., who helps Sgt. Baden, replied: "Well, you see, before I was married, I used red ink;—that was for flaming love. Now that we two are one, I use blue ink, that's for the blue blaze of everlasting love."

Sgt. Baden came back with:—"I thought it was because you got as mad as blue blazes when you thought of how you'd been caught."

72 Miles of Trucks

In Camp Blanding now, including those in both the 31st and 43rd Divisions, there are enough trucks to make a line 72 miles long, when they are traveling at the rate of twenty miles per hour, having the proper distance between each. When in convoy they are at intervals of distance twice the number of yards as the speed in miles per hour, for instance, going twenty miles per hour the interval is forty yards. It would require two hours and a half for them to pass a reviewing stand.

117th Men Slated To Move Up

Men in the second battalion of the 117th Field Artillery regiment will begin sleeping, half of them, "up-stairs" soon. How? This week they are double-decking their beds, getting ready for the warmer weather that's introducing itself to the Camp Blanding populace.

Plutocratic Private

Pfc. Gerald Francis, Co. B, 156th Inf., has solved the problem of how to be telephone orderly and how to take life easy at the same time.

Assigned to duty in the regimental headquarters last week, Pfc. Francis reported to work driving his Nash automobile. He explained that it was to save his feet when messages came that had to be delivered.

Boxer Wanted

Will someone please produce a sparring partner for a good fighter? Tommy Gomez, of the Medical Detachment, 116th Field Artillery is looking for one, needs one badly. He especially would like to have Petri Georgi come over to see him. Incidentally, it seems that this guy Gomez is really going places. Promoter Jack Kearns who was formerly manager of Jack Dempsey, is taking an interest in Tommy now and says that the lad looks mighty promising.

Fencing Club Starts Punching

The "Camp Blanding Fencing Club" was organized Thursday night at the Division Hostess House, for the purpose of instructing and arranging matches for those interested in swordsmanship. Sponsoring the club is Lt. M. S. Adove of the Camp Complement Dispensary.